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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

VOLUME 62 NUMBER 23

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

LATE NEWS

The Technical Committee of the Organization of American States ratified on May 10, 1951, the decision of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to locate in Brazil a center to combat foot-and-mouth disease, according to an official announcement of the Brazilian Foreign Office.

The total cost of the project is expected to be about $1 million. Of this sum, approval already has been given to spend $225,000 during 1951.

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The Egyptian export tax on raw cotton was reduced on May 28 from 8 Egyptian pounds per metric quintal to 2 Egyptian pounds. When quay dues and municipal taxes are added, the new export tax is equivalent to about 2.96 U.S. cents a pound which is only 25 percent of the 11.83 cent rate in effect prior to May 28. The new rate is temporary and applies only to cotton sold and exported during the period May 28 to August 31, 1951. This action was taken in an effort to revive cotton export sales and forestall the necessity for further purchases of old-crop cotton by the Government under the price support program announced on March 21, 1951.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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WORLD HORSE NUMBERS FOR 1950 AND 1951 1/

World horse numbers at the beginning of 1951 were estimated by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations at about 75 million head. This is a slight decrease from the 1950 estimate and about 22 percent below the 1934-38 prewar average.

Horse numbers increased moderately during the early postwar years, but have declined slightly since 1948 as tractor power has become available. Numbers increased or were maintained in most of the war-devastated countries of the world during 1949 and 1950. Generally, decreases occurred in the more agriculturally mechanized areas where farms were not exposed to war damage.

The Soviet Union is the only area reporting sizable increases during 1949 and 1950. The gain in the Soviet Union, together with unimportant changes in Europe, South America, Africa and Asia did not, however, offset declines in North America and Oceania (Australia and New Zealand). Horse numbers on all continents with the exception of Africa are reported to be substantially below prewar. South America is estimated as only slightly under the 1934-38 average.

Lack of tractors, replacement parts and fuel made necessary the expansion of horse-breeding programs in Europe, the Soviet Union and Asia. In postwar years, exports from countries having a surplus of horse power also tended to increase numbers in some of the war-damaged areas.

In Europe, horse numbers in Austria, Belgium and Germany now exceed prewar, but numbers in France and Greece are somewhat below. Increased mechanization in the United Kingdom has been accompanied by a decline in horse numbers during the past few years. Owing to the increase in the number of horses in Finland during the shortage of motor transportation, there is now a yearly surplus of 30,000 horses for slaughter. Although horse numbers in many countries have fallen because of the increased use of tractors on farms, some decrease can be attributed to the increased rate of slaughter for human consumption. In Western Germany there are still around 25,000 head more than the prewar average. German advisory agencies have continually pointed to the reduction in horses needed as one of the benefits of mechanization, but farmers have been slow to reduce their stocks. The Dutch horse population has continued downward during 1949 and 1950 due primarily to increased mechanization.

According to the agricultural census of 1949, a shift has occurred in the distribution of horses on Norwegian farms. There is at least one horse now kept on each of 20,000 small farms on which there were no horses previously. This increase on small farms has been more than counterbalanced

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1/ A more extensive statement soon will be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

HORSES: Number in specified countries, average 1934-38, annual 1948-1951

Continent and country	Month of 1/ estimate	Average 1934-38	1948	1949	1950 2/	1951 2/
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
NORTH AMERICA						
Canada	June 1	2,864	1,904	1,796	1,683	-
Mexico	June	3/ 2,199	-	-	-	-
United States	Jan. 1	11,570	6,589	5,898	5,274	4,763
Cuba	Dec. 31 1/	582	-	-	-	-
Estimated total		18,600	12,800	12,000	11,200	10,500
EUROPE						
Austria	Dec. 3 1/	4/5/ 261	283	284	282	283
Belgium	Jan. 1	1/ 245	288	265	257	247
Bulgaria 6/	Dec. 31 1/	5/ 532	-	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	Jan. 1	7/ 654	650	640	640	-
Denmark	July 15	553	573	532	503	-
Finland	Mar. 1	8/ 372	382	402	9/ 427	-
France	Fall 1/	2,808	2,407	2,418	2,414	2,394
Germany - Western	Dec. 1 1/	7/ 1,542	1,577	1,618	1,629	1,570
Greece	Dec. 31 1/	356	241	231	232	242
Hungary	Spring	803	516	569	-	-
Iceland	Spring	46	1/ 55	1/ 52	1/ 44	1/ 43
Ireland	June	429	421	402	391	-
Italy	July	4/5/ 801	-	1/ 793	1/ 791	-
Luxembourg	Dec. 1 1/	5/ 17	17	17	16	15
Netherlands	May	293	300	276	252	-
Norway	June 20	186	206	198	191	-
Poland	June 30	5/ 3,149	2,300	2,538	-	-
Portugal	Dec. 31 1/	5/ 90	-	-	-	-
Rumania	Dec. 31 1/	5/ 1,581	-	-	-	-
Spain	Dec. 31 1/	5/ 563	600	600	-	-
Sweden	Summer	615	497	465	440	-
Switzerland	April	5/ 140	142	138	134	-
United Kingdom	June	1,107	703	618	549	-
Yugoslavia	Dec. 31 1/	1,212	-	-	-	-
Estimated total		19,300	16,000	16,300	16,400	16,200
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	Jan. 1	5/ 19,900	-	-	-	10/ 13,700
ASIA						
Iran	Mar. 21	7/ 328	350	330	365	365
Iraq		5/ 150	188	188	184	-
Syria	Dec. 31 1/	58	141	108	98	-
Turkey	Dec. 31 1/	7/ 915	1,066	1,164	1,134	1,140
Burma	Dec. 31 1/	57	12	-	-	-
China (22 provinces)	May	7/ 3,772	-	-	-	-
Manchuria and Jehol	Dec. 31 1/	7/ 1,948	-	-	-	-
Outer Mongolia		5/ 1,550	-	-	-	-
French Indochina		7/ 105	-	-	26	-

Continued---

HORSES: Number in specified countries, average 1934-38, annual 1948-1951

Continent and country	Month of 1/ estimate	Average 1934-38	1948	1949	1950 2/	1951 2/
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
ASIA (Continued)						
India	Dec. 31 1/	5/ 1,850	-	-	-	1,550
Indonesia	Dec. 31 1/	652	-	-	596	-
Japan	Dec. 31 1/	1,330	1,091	1,072	1,120	1,130
Pakistan	Dec. 31 1/	5/ 535	470	-	-	-
Philippine Islands	Jan. 1	5/ 340	183	195	215	235
Siam	March 31	364	-	-	-	220
Estimated total		15,100	12,100	12,100	12,200	12,100
SOUTH AMERICA						
Argentina	July 1	5/ 8,290	-	-	-	-
Brazil		7/ 6,149	6,800	-	-	-
Chile	June 1	7/ 489	460	460	-	-
Colombia	Dec. 31 1/	7/ 941	1,130	1,183	1,180	-
Paraguay	Dec. 31 1/	7/ 229	404	354	294	275
Peru		5/ 400	453	-	518	-
Uruguay	April	5/ 644	546	550	-	550
Estimated total		17,700	17,600	17,700	17,400	17,400
AFRICA						
Algeria		176	205	204	209	-
French Morocco 11/	Dec. 31 1/	216	162	155	165	-
Tunisia	Dec. 31 1/	108	76	66	70	71
Union of South Africa	August	5/ 778	684	-	-	-
Estimated total		3,100	3,900	3,800	3,800	3,800
OCEANIA						
Australia	March 31	1/ 1,761	1,165	1,115	1,057	-
New Zealand	Jan. 31	274	204	196	190	-
Estimated total		2,100	1,400	1,300	1,300	1,200
Estimated world total		95,800	75,100	75,200	75,000	74,900

1/ End of year estimates (October to December) included under following year for comparisons and totals. Thus, for Austria the December 3, 1947 estimate of 283,000 is shown under 1948. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Average of 1930 and 1940 censuses. 4/ March. 5/ Census or estimate for single year. 6/ Includes Southern Dobrudja in postwar years. 7/ Average for 2 to 4 years only. 8/ September. 9/ Census, June 15, 1950. 10/ Official estimate of the U.S.S.R. 11/ Data include only number taxed.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of the United States Foreign Service officers, and other information. Data for countries having changed boundaries relate to present territory, unless otherwise noted. Totals include estimates for countries for which official statistics are unavailable.

by a decrease in the horses kept on large farms. On these farms tractor power has largely replaced horsepower.

The steady decline of horse numbers has continued in Switzerland. An advancement in farm mechanization probably has reduced the number of draft horses by 10,000 head as compared with the prewar status. Demand for small tractors now threatens further reduction. This policy is considered unwise by the Swiss Government as the country's entire motor fuel supply must be imported.

According to available data, the horse population of Southeastern Europe probably fell off during 1950 because of severe drought which limited supplies of forage and feed.

The Soviet Union has reported officially that horse numbers increased during 1950. Postwar gains have been steady, but numbers are still far below prewar levels and current production goals.

Horse numbers in Turkey and Iran were maintained near the 1950 level and are well above the 1934-38 average. On the other hand, some recovery is apparent in India, Japan and the Philippines. The Philippine horse population is currently placed near 70 percent of prewar. Since the animal is used almost exclusively for pulling light native rigs, and since the number of motor vehicles in the country has increased tremendously in postwar years, the decline in horse numbers is hardly felt.

Horse numbers in the United States during 1950 declined at about the same rapid rate as in recent years. This decline continued the trend which began in 1915. The small crop of colts is below that required to maintain present levels and points to a continued downward trend in workstock inventories. The number of horses kept on farms in Canada dropped sharply during 1950. This further decrease follows a steady downward tendency in numbers since 1942.

South American countries show a slight decline, but numbers are nearer the 1934-38 prewar average than on any other continent. Severe drought in late 1949 and early 1950 seriously affected the Argentine horse population. Horsepower is still very important in this country, but numbers should decline with the increased availability of tractor power. In Uruguay, saddle horses are about as numerous as in former years, but draft horses are gradually being replaced by machinery. Horse numbers in Venezuela are somewhat below prewar; however, a local horse crop of 70,000 animals probably forecasts a shift from cattle to horses on the part of some ranchers who, in the presence of foot-and-mouth disease, believe horse raising will be less risky.

In Oceania, both Australia and New Zealand continue their postwar decline and, like the United States and Canada, are below prewar levels.

In general, world horse numbers during 1951 should remain close to 1950. Declines in mechanized and semi-mechanized areas may be offset by increases in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, Asia and some African countries. The Soviet Union and many European countries will not altogether abandon horse power for mechanization. Under current world tensions, and with the conversion of much heavy industry to war production plus the possibility of conserving fuel supplies, horses will continue to be of great importance to European and Asian agriculture.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural and livestock production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

WORLD BUTTER AND CHEESE OUTPUT INCREASED DURING 1950 [1]

Total butter and cheese output in principal producing countries increased considerably in 1950 over 1949. Milk production in practically every major producing country was greater in 1950 than in the preceding year. Thus, despite generally increased fluid milk consumption and increased output of canned milk, larger quantities of milk were generally available for use in butter and cheese.

Although some countries have been gradually relaxing regulations concerning the production and marketing of butter and cheese, a few countries still had in 1950 quite rigid controls and many had various price, subsidy, tax and licensing programs which affected both domestic production and international trade of butter and cheese.

World production of butter, including ghee produced in Middle Eastern and Far Eastern countries, is estimated at about 8,000 million pounds for 1950 as compared with estimated production for 1949 of about 7,800 million pounds. Production of butter, excluding ghee, in the major producing countries is reported at 5,590 million pounds in 1950 as compared to 5,370 million pounds in 1949. Butter production in the major producing countries is now at 89 percent of prewar levels.

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[1] A more extensive statement soon will be published as a Foreign Agricultural Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

BUTTER: Preliminary estimate of production in specified countries in 1950, with comparisons

Continent and country	Average 1934-38		1949		1950	
	Factory	Total	Factory	Total	Factory	Total
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
NORTH AMERICA						
Canada	1/ 252	1/ 348	280	335	262	311
United States	1,673	2,178	1,412	1,694	1,395	1,666
Cuba	1/ 4	1/ 4	3	3	3	3
EUROPE						
Austria	-	2/3/ 51	-	3/ 55	-	3/ 51
Belgium	4/ 46	4/ 156	-	143	-	165
Czechoslovakia	5/6/ 27	-	6/ 71	-	-	-
Denmark	401	401	344	344	396	396
Finland	7/ 69	3/7/ 121	53	77	3/ 62	3/ 86
France	3/ 220	3/ 529	-	3/ 460	-	3/ 510
Germany, Western	1/ 560	1/ 681	523	3/ 536	571	3/ 584
Greece 8/	-	13	-	10	-	12
Ireland	89	149	77	3/ 121	83	3/ 127
Italy	-	111	-	117	-	3/ 122
Luxembourg	6	6	7	7	3/ 7	3/ 7
Netherlands	9/ 230	9/ 239	185	185	205	205
Norway	24	51	24	40	26	44
Sweden	153	190	216	223	240	245
Switzerland 10/	-	58	-	34	-	41
United Kingdom	9/ 47	9/ 101	24	3/ 46	36	3/ 58
SOUTH AMERICA						
Argentina	66	-	3/ 86	-	3/ 112	-
Brazil	4/ 51	4/ 72	-	-	-	-
AFRICA						
Union of South Africa	11/ 28	11/ 41	46	3/ 58	60	3/ 72
OCEANIA						
Australia	12/ 415	12/ 437	378	3/ 389	379	3/ 390
New Zealand	12/13/ 358	12/13/ 376	394	3/ 407	372	3/ 385
Estimated world total 14/	-	9,600	-	7,800	-	8,000

1/ Averages for years 1935-38. 2/ Averages for years 1934-37. 3/ Estimated. 4/ Averages for years 1936-38. 5/ Averages for years 1933-36. 6/ Includes farm butter delivered to creameries. 7/ Averages for years 1936-39. 8/ Made from the milk of cattle, buffaloes, sheep and goats. 9/ For the year 1939. 10/ Made from the milk of cattle and goats. 11/ Production year beginning September 1. 12/ Production year beginning July 1. 13/ One year, 1937-38 only. 14/ Includes product weight of ghee in those countries where ghee production is common, especially India, Turkey, Egypt and other Middle and Far Eastern countries.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, United States Foreign Service reports, and other information.-June 4, 1951.

CHEESE: Preliminary estimate of production in specified countries in 1950, with comparisons

Continent and country	Average 1934-38		1949		1950	
	Factory	Total	Factory	Total	Factory	Total
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
NORTH AMERICA						
Canada 1/	125 1/	126	121	122	100	101
United States	643	643	1,200	1,200	1,173	1,173
Cuba 2/	3 2/	6	5 3/	10	5 3/	10
EUROPE						
Austria	- 4/	69	17 3/	19	21 3/	29
Belgium	- 4/	17	10 3/	13	12 3/	13
Czechoslovakia 5/	55	-	31	-	-	-
Denmark	69	69	136	136	130	130
Finland 6/	23	-	20	-	28	-
France 7/ 2/	365 3/	584	- 3/	470	- 3/	660
Greece 8/	-	129	-	83	-	95
Ireland	- 9/	4	-	7	-	7
Italy 7/	-	524	-	522	- 3/	575
Luxembourg	-	1	- 3/	1	- 3/	1
Netherlands 3/	200	267	238	282	236	287
Norway 10/	40 3/	50	47	47	57	57
Sweden	76 3/	88	146	146	115	115
Switzerland 10/	-	112	-	119	-	124
United Kingdom 11/	81	109	69	74	118	123
SOUTH AMERICA						
Argentina	68	- 3/	218	- 3/	227	-
Brazil 9/	59 9/	92	-	-	-	-
Uruguay	- 2/	11	- 3/	20	- 3/	13
AFRICA						
Union of South Africa 12/	10 12/	11	-	17	-	21
OCEANIA						
Australia 12/	48 13/	49	101 3/	102	104 3/	105
New Zealand 13/	211 13/	211	234	234	240	240

1/ Year 1939 only. 2/ Year 1937 only. 3/ Estimated. 4/ Averages for years 1934-37. 5/ Averages for years 1933-36. 6/ Averages for years 1936-39. 7/ Made from the milk of cattle, sheep and goats. 8/ Made from the milk of cattle, buffaloes, sheep and goats. 9/ Averages for years 1936-38. 10/ Made from the milk of cattle and goats. 11/ Excludes the output of producers outside the Milk Marketing Scheme. 12/ Production year beginning September 1. 13/ Production year beginning July 1.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, United States Foreign Service reports, and other information.-June 4, 1951.

Although total butter production is reported to have increased about 4 percent, output decreased in 4 of the major producing countries in 1950. In the United States, output was 2 percent lower than in 1949 and only 76 percent of prewar. In Canada, output was down 7 percent from 1949 and was 90 percent of prewar. In New Zealand, output, although down from 1949, was 2 percent above prewar. These decreases, however, were more than offset by major increases which took place in 1950 output of butter in Denmark, France and Western Germany and smaller increases in Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden and Argentina. Increases also took place in Finland, the Union of South Africa, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Ireland, and Italy. Of these countries reporting increased output over 1949, only Argentina, the Union of South Africa, Sweden and Belgium were above prewar levels.

Production of cheese in reporting countries in 1950 increased about 7 percent over 1949 and was about 30 percent above prewar levels. This relatively large increase in cheese output is reflected in changes in the utilization pattern of total milk production wherein cheese accounts for a larger, and butter a smaller, proportion of the world milk supply. However, cheese output in 1950 decreased from 1949 levels in 4 major countries. In Canada, output was down 17 percent from 1949 and down 20 percent from prewar. In the United States, the major producer of cheese as well as butter, output in 1950 was down 2 percent from 1949 but up 82 percent over prewar. In Sweden, output was down 21 percent from 1949 but 13 percent above prewar. In Denmark, output was down 4 percent from 1949 but nearly 90 percent above prewar. In nearly all other countries reporting, output was above both 1949 and prewar levels. Major increases took place in France, Italy and the United Kingdom, with smaller increases in Greece, Austria, Norway, Argentina and Finland.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports of world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

WORLD 1950-51 TOBACCO HARVEST SLIGHTLY ABOVE 1949-50 [1]

The world tobacco harvest during the 12 months, July 1950 through June 1951, is now estimated at 7,100 million pounds as compared to an earlier forecast of 7,220 million pounds. The decrease occurred primarily as a result of a rather sharp decline in the outturn forecast for India from which until recently no official estimates had been received for several years.

The world 1950-51 harvest is still estimated at approximately 3 percent above the revised total of 6,865 million pounds for 1949-50 and 8 percent above the prewar (1935-39) average of 6,597 million pounds. For both 1949-50 and 1950-51 the world tobacco harvest is somewhat smaller than previously estimated.

Production in 1950-51 in Canada, Mexico, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Yugoslavia, Southern Rhodesia and several other countries were below the 1949-50 harvest but increases primarily in the United States, France, Western Germany, Greece, Philippine Republic and Thailand more than offset the decline in these countries. A somewhat larger output of leaf tobacco is estimated for every major geographical area except Africa where a slight decline is reported.

The 1950-51 production of flue-cured leaf, the principal type entering world trade, is about 7 percent above the 1949-50 harvest. Larger crops estimated for the United States, Japan, India and Thailand should more than offset the decreases in Canada, Southern Rhodesia and certain other major flue-cured producing countries. Increased world demand for this type of leaf has encouraged an expansion of flue-cured production in numerous countries.

In the case of Oriental-or Turkish-type tobacco a slight increase was reported for Greece, Italy and the Balkan countries but this is not sufficient to offset the rather substantial declines in Turkey, Yugoslavia and the South African producing countries. The countries of South Africa have decreased Oriental-type production in favor of flue-cured for which there has been a substantial increase in demand.

The world production of light air-cured types including Burley, which represents an important portion of total production in many producing countries, are estimated to be slightly higher in 1950-51

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[1] A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

TOBACCO: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, average 1935-39, annual 1949 and 1950 1/

Continent and Country	Acreage Harvested			Yield per Acre 2/			Production		
	Average 1935-39	1949 3/	1950 3/	Average 1935-39	1949 5/	1950 3/	Average 1935-39	1949 3/	1950 3/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
NORTH AMERICA:									
Canada	69	109	103	1,103	1,282	1,143	76,556	139,820	117,550
Costa Rica	4/	3	3	-	912	699	4/	3,099	2,369
Mexico	51	80	64	840	851	922	42,426	68,343	59,000
United States	1,647	1,631	1,604	887	1,209	1,267	1,460,054	1,972,541	2,032,430
Cuba	107	146	117	474	640	620	50,853	93,643	72,400
Dominican Republic	-	41	47	-	1,175	709	5/ 13,660	48,406	33,000
Puerto Rico	44	36	-	673	694	-	29,393	25,000	27,000
Estimated total 6/	1,960	2,080	2,020	-	-	-	1,710,000	2,365,000	2,375,000
EUROPE:									
Albania	5	-	-	826	-	-	4,082	-	-
Belgium	6	3	4	2,500	2,067	2,275	16,431	6,931	10,000
Bulgaria 7/	94	-	-	809	-	-	75,871	-	-
Czechoslovakia 7/	8/ 24	14	-	8/ 1,288	1,303	-	8/ 31,143	17,684	-
France	44	75	71	1,676	1,233	1,584	72,995	92,393	112,435
Germany 7/	33	22	27	2,254	2,280	2,352	74,355	50,706	63,933
Greece 7/	226	199	253	589	587	504	132,819	116,623	127,646
Hungary 7/	37	53	-	1,238	-	-	45,872	-	-
Italy 7/	81	136	144	1,173	1,046	1,021	95,511	142,682	147,333
Poland 7/	17	35	39	1,664	1,262	-	28,566	43,651	-
Rumania 7/	44	-	-	647	-	-	28,697	-	-
Spain	-	29	32	-	1,078	1,078	17,322	30,935	34,028
Sweden	1	1	1	1,735	1,463	1,645	1,051	904	772
Switzerland	1	2	2	1,571	1,876	2,096	2,276	4,530	5,291
Yugoslavia 7/	39	85	-	969	804	-	37,410	68,000	37,000
Estimated total 6/	680	825	885	-	-	-	675,000	725,000	750,000
U.S.S.R	8/ 490	-	-	8/ 1,129	-	-	8/ 525,000	-	-
ASIA:									
Iran	32	32	44	1,096	775	760	34,542	24,912	33,186
Iraq	8/ 11	-	-	752	-	-	8/ 8,057	16,898	17,000
Lebanon 9/	8/ (13	5	5	8/ (699	495	734	8/ (8,825	2,568	3,907
Syria 9/	(	14	21	(	514	820	(	7,280	16,830
Turkey	194	316	317	661	634	588	128,505	200,162	186,229
Burma	108	137	-	990	460	-	107,072	63,000	-
Ceylon	8/ 14	10	11	-	602	590	4/	5,841	6,619
China 7/	1,228	1,200	-	1,021	1,000	-	1,254,539	1,200,000	-

French Indochina	8/ 44	25	25	8/ 728	565	565	8/ 32,004	14,330	14,330
India	8/ 917	774	790	831	643	-	8/ 761,600	500,000	-
Pakistan	8/ 355	-	-	8/ 913	-	-	8/ 324,0r3	140,000	-
Japan	92	125	134	1,621	1,494	1,637	148,680	187,000	218,864
Taiwan (Formosa)	4	10	12	1,458	1,338	1,662	5,961	13,228	21,065
Korea 7/	46	49	49	1,252	1,428	1,223	57,304	70,024	60,000
Java and Madura:									
Estate	8/ 69	38	18	8/ 976	578	-	8/ 67,762	22,000	-
Native	8/ 349	-	-	8/ 402	-	-	8/ 140,298	-	-
Sumatra Estate	8/ 31	10	9	8/ 988	900	833	8/ 30,715	9,000	7,500
Philippine Republic	176	119	141	427	491	500	74,811	58,197	71,000
Thailand (Siam)	8/ 25	98	4/	688	305	-	8/ 17,179	30,000	40,000
Estimated total 6/	3,750	3,450	3,600	-	-	-	3,250,000	2,700,000	2,850,000
SOUTH AMERICA:									
Argentina	34	50	82	928	1,084	893	31,558	54,454	73,193
Brazil	237	285	297	851	748	735	202,703	212,953	218,026
Chile	9	10	9	1,846	1,728	1,732	16,618	16,808	15,404
Colombia	8/ 37	-	-	8/ 805	-	-	8/ 29,706	44,092	-
Ecuador	4/	4/	4/	-	-	-	8/ 2,410	2,646	5,500
Paraguay	22	11	12	801	956	1,083	17,792	9,921	13,000
Uruguay	2	1	1	825	1,035	-	1,254	661	-
Estimated total 6/	355	445	480	-	-	-	305,229	370,000	400,000
AFRICA:									
Algeria	56	78	53	691	566	790	38,667	44,092	41,887
Nyasaland	57	163	160	286	195	194	16,311	31,837	31,000
French Morocco	1	4	4	1,040	1,059	1,059	704	4,189	4,189
Madagascar	8/ 19	15	-	8/ 764	407	-	8/ 14,164	6,217	7,055
Northern Rhodesia	8/ 4	19	-	8/ 486	403	-	8/ 1,635	7,675	-
Southern Rhodesia	51	155	174	507	690	433	26,061	106,733	83,908
Tunisia	1	2	2	1,196	1,124	1,210	1,202	2,359	2,380
Union of South Africa	8/ 41	-	-	8/ 500	-	-	8/ 20,476	41,665	45,484
Estimated total 6/	245	560	560	-	-	-	125,000	260,000	245,000
OCEANIA:									
Australia	10	5	5	532	906	746	5,276	4,132	3,855
New Zealand	2	4	4	787	1,208	1,410	1,457	4,712	5,500
Estimated total 6/	12	9	9	-	-	-	6,733	8,844	9,355
Estimated World total 6/	7,492	7,900	8,085	-	-	-	6,597,000	6,865,000	7,100,000

1/ Year beginning July 1. For North temperate zone countries, harvests July through October of the year shown; for all other countries, harvests November and December of the year shown and January through June of the following year. 2/ Yields are calculated from detailed acreage and production estimates rather than estimates rounded to the nearest thousand. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Data not available 5/ Exports, production data not available. 6/ Totals include approximations for countries not listed and for countries listed where data are not available. 7/ Data for 1935-39 not comparable with subsequent years. Data for 1949 and 1950 are for postwar areas. In the case of Germany, data for 1948 and 1949 are for Western Germany only. For Korea, 1948 and 1949 data are for South Korea only. In the case of China, postwar data are for all China except Manchuria, 1935-39 data are for Free China only. 8/ Less than a 5-year average. 9/ Separate data not available for 1935-39.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Official estimates of foreign countries, reports from U. S. Foreign Service Officers, results of Office research, and other information.

than the 1949-50 harvest. The moderate decline in the United States is more than compensated for by increases in a number of countries. The production of dark types, other than cigar leaf, is expected to exceed the 1949-50 outturn. Cigar-leaf production is estimated to be about the same level this year as for the 1949-50 harvest.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN APPLES AND PEARS

A total of 22.0 million bushels of apples and 6.9 million bushels of pears entered into world trade in 1950 compared with 26.8 million and 8.6 million respectively in 1949 and the 5-year (1935-39) average of 32.3 million bushels of apples and 6.6 million bushels of pears.

Exports of apples from the North American area, (the United States and Canada) totaled 7.8 million bushels in 1950 compared with 5.3 million in 1949 and the 5-year (1935-39) average of 16.3 million bushels. The gain in 1950 over 1949 was largely the result of the special purchases by the British Ministry of Food in Canada and the United States, although the export payment program initiated by the United States Department of Agriculture had considerable influence. Despite this improvement, the exports from these areas continued far below the prewar II levels because of the deficiencies in imports into the United Kingdom and other important historical markets in western Europe. The net export of North America in 1950 was particularly small in relation to prewar since nearly one-half the recent Canadian exports were consigned to the United States compared with a negligible quantity in the prewar years.

For Europe, the historical international apple market, exports fell off sharply in 1950 compared with 1949 or from 17.5 to 9.0 million bushels but were about equal to the prewar average. Imports were also down sharply, totaling only 14.0 million bushels in 1950 compared with 19.1 million in 1949 and the 5-year (1935-39) average of 28.6 million bushels. Expanding local production and the control of imports occasioned by shortage of exchange were the chief factors effecting apple imports in recent years. However, information on imports into some eastern countries is not available for recent years which accounts for some of the apparent decreases as compared with prewar.

For the other important areas of the world participating in international trade in apples, the situation in 1950 was little different from that in 1949 except that exports from Australia and New Zealand increased somewhat. As compared with prewar both imports and exports for Asia and Africa declined sharply, but for South America both increased to relatively higher levels. In 1950, South America (Argentina and Chile) exported 1.6 million bushels of apples and imported 1.4 million. Imports were mainly by Brazil and Venezuela.

North American exports of pears in 1950 totaled 816,000 bushels compared with 423,000 in 1949 and the 5-year (1935-39) average of 2,645,000 bushels. Imports for this area totaled 605,000 bushels in 1950 so that there was a net export of only 211,000 bushels compared with a prewar net export of 2,167,000. This decline in net exports is due entirely to the loss of the historical market in the United Kingdom and western Europe.

For Europe, as a whole, 1950 showed a decline in both exports and imports from the relatively high levels reached in 1949 but this trade was somewhat above prewar. It is quite evident that Europe is becoming self-sufficient in pears because even though the United Kingdom imported none from the United States in recent years the total volume imported has exceeded that of the prewar average.

Exports of pears from the Union of South Africa, Australia and Argentina, the remaining important exporting areas, held up well in 1950 compared with those of recent years and the prewar average. Imports of pears into Brazil in 1950, totaling 602,000 bushels, were slightly above those of 1950 and more than double the prewar average.--By Gustave Burmeister, based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

(Accompanying tables on following pages)

APPLES: International trade, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1947-50

Continent and country	Average				1947		1948		1949		1950	
	1935-39		1940-44									
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
NORTH AMERICA	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
Canada	6,404	225	1,755	122	3,414	400	2,265	60	3,409	204	4,731	125
Mexico	0	31	0	66	0	162	0	20	0	4	0	1
Newfoundland and Labrador	0	97	0	120	0	143	0	143	0	17	0	1/
Panama	0	22	0	30	0	20	0	24	0	34	0	37
Panama Canal Zone	0	-	0	26	0	19	0	18	0	7	0	8
United States	9,730	27	894	597	4,553	1,211	2,138	1,324	1,853	1,519	3,005	2,140
United States 2/	149	0	168	0	182	0	54	0	56	0	56	0
Cuba	0	102	0	156	0	294	0	303	0	284	0	248
Curacao NWI	0	14	0	16	0	27	0	32	0	25	0	26
Dominican Republic	0	3/	0	35	0	18	0	15	0	16	0	22
Puerto Rico 4/	0	31	0	32	0	54	0	54	0	56	0	56
Total	16,283	549	2,817	1,200	8,149	2,348	4,457	1,993	5,318	2,166	7,792	2,663
EUROPE												
Austria	228	491	5/	5/	1/	270	1	198	150	207	456	75
Belgium and Luxembourg	397	1,657	104	108	132	368	1,471	1,793	692	881	1,130	440
Bulgaria	296	0	53	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	26	1,339	-	-	1	2,057	-	438	-	935	69	111
Denmark	44	105	229	3	311	0	941	0	976	0	827	0
Ireland	2	310	4	22	1	52	1	77	1	138	-	128
Finland	0	193	0	64	0	213	0	510	0	194	0	100
France												
Table	393	1,425	333	68	217	168	109	814	256	145	299	1,613
Cider	1,892	1	1,651	1/	126	8	311	0	1,676	0	376	0
Germany	1	6,323	0	7,345	-	189	-	2,177	0	9,783	0	4,440
Greece	14	1	1/	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hungary	195	66	199	1/	-	-	20	-	5	-	-	-
Iceland	0	3	0	17	0	1/	0	1/	-	-	-	-
Italy	2,420	0	2,479	0	2,774	0	2,573	0	5,618	0	2,995	-
Netherlands	539	790	917	146	218	176	210	879	6,084	62	2,274	146
Norway	6/ 1	6/ 162	1/	33	1	41	0	22	0	87	-	1/
Poland and Danzig	1/	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portugal	27	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	-	-
Rumania	6	0	1/	0	71	0	-	-	-	0	-	-
Spain	4	25	16	0	25	0	9	0	-	0	-	-
Sweden	12	693	1/	212	1/	1,124	1/	755	0	618	0	663
Switzerland 6/												
Table	948	931	932	138	930	466	2,664	227	652	1,914	470	754
Cider	381	438	223	14	114	1	1,092	1/	1,363	1/	14	1/
United Kingdom 7/	0	13,638	0	1,448	0	3,369	0	4,565	0	4,117	0	5,481
Yugoslavia	1,095	2	-	-	329	-	38	-	-	-	45	-
Total	8,921	28,598	7,143	9,618	5,251	8,502	9,441	12,455	17,475	19,081	8,955	13,951

APPLES: International trade, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1947-50

Continent and country	Average 1935-39 Exports	Average 1935-39 Imports	Average 1940-44 Exports	Average 1940-44 Imports	1947 Exports	1947 Imports	1948 Exports	1948 Imports	1949 Exports	1949 Imports	1950 Exports	1950 Imports
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
ASIA												
Palestine	0	272	0	62	0	668	0	134	0	47	-	-
Syria and Lebanon 8/	55	9	23	1	272	6	44	2	101	18	98	0
Turkey	55	0	8	0	54	0	9	0	42	0	20	-
British Malaya	0	3/	0	15	0	5	0	5	0	38	0	71
Ceylon	0	3/	0	1	0	49	0	1	-	-	-	-
China	60	146	40	378	1/	3	3	1	-	-	-	-
Manchuria	0	392	0	151	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
French Indochina 6/	0	68	0	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hong Kong	0	44	0	11	0	233	0	144	0	180	0	229
India	0	3/	0	0	0	25	0	2	0	1	-	-
Japan 9/	0	463	-	434	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Japan	181	0	272	-	-	13	17	-	-	-	-	-
Korea	359	0	773	-	54	-	15	-	-	-	-	-
Korea 10/	463	0	434	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia	0	79	0	87	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Philippines, Republic of	0	118	0	132	0	488	0	1,017	0	550	0	369
Total	1,173	1,591	1,550	1,291	380	1,490	88	1,309	143	834	118	669
SOUTH AMERICA												
Argentina	255	134	275	32	885	0	383	0	1,233	0	1,186	0
Bolivia	0	1	0	34	0	18	0	25	0	24	0	15
Brazil	0	306	0	374	0	1,032	0	684	0	1,140	0	1,203
Chile	525	0	142	0	260	0	117	0	348	0	391	-
Colombia	0	3/	0	5	0	28	0	20	0	7	0	15
Peru	0	7	0	39	0	25	0	12	0	2	0	10
Uruguay	0	3	0	24	0	15	0	5	-	-	-	-
Venezuela	0	3/	0	17	0	178	0	245	0	165	0	177
Total	780	451	417	525	1,145	1,296	500	991	1,581	1,338	1,577	1,420
AFRICA												
Algeria	1	101	6	20	0	107	0	64	0	127	-	-
Belgian Congo	0	8	1/	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Egypt	2	213	1	30	0	125	0	46	0	75	0	64
French Morocco	1/	67	1/	2	1/	21	0	16	0	65	-	-
Union of South Africa	274	59	218	9	-	0	141	0	-	-	170	-
Total	277	448	225	69	1/	253	141	126	-	267	170	64
OCEANIA												
Australia 11/	4,017	0	92	0	807	0	2,933	0	1,852	0	2,634	0
Hawaiian Islands 4/	0	118	0	136	0	128	0	-	-	-	-	-
New Zealand	893	4	103	0	5	0	819	0	445	-	778	-
Total	4,910	122	195	136	812	128	3,752	-	2,297	-	3,412	-
Grand total	32,344	31,759	12,347	12,839	15,737	14,017	18,379	16,874	26,814	23,686	22,024	18,767

1/ Less than 500 bushels. 2/ Shipments from U.S. to Hawaii and Puerto Rico through 1947. Puerto Rico only for subsequent years. 3/ Included with others, if any. 4/ Trade with U.S. 5/ Included with Germany. 6/ Includes pears. 7/ Net trade. 8/ Includes quinces. 9/ Trade with Korea. 10/ Trade with Japan. 11/ Year beginning July 1.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information.

PEARS: International trade, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1947-50

Continent and country	Average				1947		1948		1949		1950	
	1935-39		1940-44									
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
NORTH AMERICA:												
Canada	1/	394	1/	200	4	427	2	0	5	119	3	358
Mexico	0	8	0	14	0	32	0	3	0	11	0	1
Panama	0	9	0	11	0	7	0	6	0	8	0	9
United States	2,645	42	313	207	1,902	148	375	32	418	312	813	188
Cuba	0	25	0	24	0	56	0	61	0	65	0	49
Total	2,645	478	313	456	1,906	670	377	102	423	515	816	605
EUROPE:												
Austria	2/	257	3/	3/	-	129	-	155	2/	351	1	158
Belgium and Luxembourg	238	176	35	9	1,341	48	143	278	513	115	332	191
Czechoslovakia	223	15	-	-	58	48	45	-	70	-	-	-
Denmark	2/	15	3	2	2/	0	1	0	6	0	-	-
Finland	2/	55	-	2	0	2/	0	1	0	27	-	-
France	42	464	265	19	106	2	27	7	199	58	130	72
Germany	1	828	0	422	-	74	0	181	0	2,365	0	824
Ireland	-	70	2/	2/	-	34	-	44	-	62	-	51
Italy	1,164	0	869	0	1,174	0	2,493	0	3,124	0	2,092	0
Netherlands	94	147	201	12	749	99	712	18	2,608	69	1,444	25
Sweden	2/	337	2/	86	0	381	0	206	0	161	0	204
United Kingdom 4/	0	2,582	0	128	0	4,689	0	3,429	0	4,785	0	3,632
Total	1,762	4,946	1,373	680	3,428	5,504	3,421	4,319	6,520	7,993	3,999	5,157
ASIA:												
Palestine	0	25	0	2	0	85	0	121	0	2/	0	-
China	214	0	74	-	71	-	32	-	-	-	-	-
Hong Kong	0	121	-	57	-	65	-	26	0	7	0	-
Kwantung	0	76	0	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Philippine Islands	-	11	-	10	-	8	-	11	-	11	-	16
Total	214	233	74	97	71	158	32	158	0	18	0	16
SOUTH AMERICA:												
Argentina	650	1	463	0	818	0	512	0	766	0	749	0
Brazil	0	246	0	261	0	470	0	568	0	541	0	602
Chile	21	0	11	0	21	0	9	0	6	0	38	0
Total	671	247	474	261	839	470	521	568	772	541	787	602
AFRICA:												
Egypt	2/	62	0	5	0	20	0	2	0	0	0	0
French Morocco	2/	9	2/	1	2/	5	-	5	-	17	-	-
Union of South Africa	682	0	134	0	259	0	462	0	373	0	622	0
Total	682	71	134	6	259	25	462	7	373	17	622	0
OCEANIA:												
Australia 5/	568	0	3	0	161	0	360	0	559	0	657	0
New Zealand	72	0	2/	0	2/	0	18	0	2/	0	-	-
Total	640	0	3	0	161	0	378	0	559	0	657	0
Grand total	6,614	5,975	2,371	1,500	6,664	6,827	5,191	5,154	8,647	9,084	6,881	6,380

1/ Reported in value only. 2/ Less than 500 bushels. 3/ Included with Germany. 4/ Net trade. 5/ Year beginning July 1.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Trade statistics on pears for Norway, Switzerland and Indo China included with apples.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

FATS AND OILS

THE FRENCH FATS AND OILS SITUATION IN REVIEW

While the production of animal fats continued satisfactory in 1950, the French fluid oils situation deteriorated somewhat and is causing some anxiety at the present time, according to Monroe McCown, Agricultural Attache, and Lucy Stephenson, American Embassy, Paris.

Total butter production was estimated at 248,000 short tons, against 207,000 tons in 1949. The commercialized production of tallow was estimated at 95,000 tons; total production of lard at 97,000 tons, and of margarine and other edible fats at 65,000 to 70,000 tons. Production of oilseeds in France decreased from 204,500 tons in 1949 to 171,700 tons in 1950.

Imports of oil-bearing materials were generally lower in 1950 than in 1949, with imports of peanuts down 22 percent. Imports of most vegetable oils were markedly higher in 1950 compared with 1949. In most cases exports of oil-bearing materials were slightly higher, while exports of fluid oils generally showed marked increases, particularly in the case of olive oil and "other refined vegetable oils."

Prices of domestic oilseeds continued to be based on the prescribed price of wheat, and a ceiling has been established for peanuts from the French Union. Prescribed prices to producers and refiners of fluid oils were increased at the beginning of February 1951. Prices of olive oil and lard continue to be free at all levels. The prices of these and other fats and oils have followed the general upward trend.

The quantity of oilseeds processed by the French oil-crushing industry in 1950 was 6 percent lower than in 1949, and the quantity of oil produced decreased by 8 percent. The production of soap and soap products showed a marked improvement, except in the case of lower-grade products.

Official forecasts of total supplies of fats and oils for 1951 are not available. However, estimated plantings of domestic oilseeds as of April 1, 1951, show an increase of 7 percent from plantings one year earlier.

NEW COTTONSEED OIL MILL IN MONTERREY

A new cottonseed oil mill, Algodonera y Aceitera Monterrey, S.A., under construction since August 1950, was completed and officially inaugurated on May 5, 1951, according to the American Consulate General, Monterrey, Mexico. It is owned by the Policarpo Elizondo family who also operate many leading enterprises in the city. It will produce crude cottonseed oil which will be used primarily by the Mantequera Monterrey, an affiliate, in the manufacture of vegetable lard and similar products. This new industry is expected to promote cotton plantings in the State of Nuevo Leon, and it will obtain cotton from the Reynosa-Matamoros and the Nuevo Leon cotton districts.

The majority of the building materials used was obtained locally and the mill is installed in an 18 x 100 meter room (1 meter equals 39.37 inches). The equipment consists of 20 linters purchased in the United States and includes chutes, crushers, separators, ovens, 60-ton hydraulic presses, settling tanks, an 80 h.p. boiler and a power substation.

The factory warehouse is 22 x 120 meters with a storage capacity of 9,000 tons of cottonseed. A separate building houses the administrative offices and there are garage facilities for owners and employees, and a swimming pool. The plant has its own railway siding off the Tampico rail line, which passes nearby; a railroad scale, and a 50-ton truck scale.

INDIA'S CASTOR BEAN PRODUCTION DOWN SHARPLY

Latest estimates place India's castor bean production for the year ending June 30, 1951, at 119,000 short tons compared with 143,000 tons, partially revised estimate for 1949-50. During the calendar year 1950, India reports exports of 33,825 tons of castor beans to the United States and 80,650 tons to all countries. In addition, India exported 21,102 tons of castor oil during 1950.

HAITI'S VEGETABLE OILSEED AND OIL SITUATION

Cottonseed oil is the principal vegetable oil product of Haiti, reports G.A. Hubert, American Embassy, Port-Au-Prince. Output in 1950 amounted to about 670 short tons compared with 680 in 1949 and about 820 in 1948. The decrease of recent years has resulted from the continued decline in the annual Haitian cotton production. As a by-product of oil manufacture, Haiti produced approximately 2,790 tons of cottonseed cake the past year.

Castor bean production in Haiti is practically equivalent to exports since only a small quantity is processed locally. Exports during the fiscal year 1949-50 totaled 3,637 tons against 2,578 in 1948-49 and 2,713 in 1947-48. All of the castor beans were exported to the United States.

Commercial production of coconut oil has practically ceased in Haiti. Dealers state that it can be sold locally only when no other cooking oil is available.

Exports from Haiti during the fiscal year 1949-50 included the 3,637 tons of castor beans mentioned above, 2,141 tons of cottonseed cake and meal, and 50 tons of cashew nuts. The bulk of the shipments went to the United States. Because of impending cattle-feeding developments in the Plateau Central, the Government placed a restrictive tax last fall on all exports of cottonseed cake over an established fraction of the local production. This was done to encourage the local utilization of cottonseed cake and meal for cattle feed.

Imports during 1949-50 included 212 tons of butter and butter substitutes, 641 tons of edible oils, 2,965 tons of lard and lard substitutes, and 6,173 tons of soap. The United States was the largest single supplier. The high level of imports of late years reflects the general prosperity in the country as well as the decrease in the local production of vegetable fats and oils. With the declining cotton crop and increasing local purchasing power imports of vegetable and animal oils and fats are expected to continue heavy.

ARGENTINE ANIMAL FAT EXPORTS ONE-THIRD OF LAST YEAR

Exports of lard, tallow, and primer jus from Argentina during January-March 1951 amounted to only 8,210 short tons, reports S. Baxter, American Embassy, Buenos Aires. Shipments in the corresponding first quarter of 1950 totaled 24,559 tons.

Accumulated stocks of animal fats were liquidated by large exports in 1950 and, consequently, the market was relatively inactive during the early months of 1951.

Animal fat exports consisted of 4,475 tons of lard, 2,155 of tallow, and 1,580 of primer jus. Italy taking 2,563 tons and Peru with 738 tons were the chief purchasers of lard. The United Kingdom purchased all of the primer jus while 1,119 tons of tallow were sent to Finland.

The nominal export prices of various cattle fats on April 30, as published by a leading tallow broker in Buenos Aires, were unchanged from earlier dates and were as follows: primer jus, 3.15 pesos per kilo, edible tallow, 3.10 pesos, and inedible tallow, 3.05 pesos, all in pine casks, f.o.b. Buenos Aires.

Converted to U.S. cents at the rate of 1 peso equal to 20.0 cents, these prices are equivalent to 28.6, 28.1, and 27.7 cents per pound. Lard was quoted on April 24 at 4.60 pesos per kilo, f.o.b. Buenos Aires, in tins. This is equivalent to 27.8 cents per pound at the exchange rate of 1 peso equal to 13.3 cents.

TURKEY'S VEGETABLE OILSEED PRODUCTION DOWN

Production of vegetable oilseeds during 1950 in Turkey was approximately 376,500 short tons, according to revised estimates reported by L.L. Scranton, American Embassy, Ankara. This represented a decrease of about 8 percent from the 408,600 tons produced in 1949.

Cottonseed output is placed at 212,000 tons for 1950 against 204,000 tons in 1949. Of the total 1950 production, about 150,000 tons are available for crushing, 27,500 tons were withheld for 1951 plantings, and 23,541 tons of seed, 37,218 tons of oilcake, and 11 tons of oil were exported.

Cottonseed production in 1951 is expected to show an increase above the previous year inasmuch as an increase in cotton acreage by as much as 20 percent is in prospect.

Sunflower seed output in 1950 was revised downward from an earlier estimate of 115,000 tons to only 73,000 tons. Because this oilseed is also an important source of edible oil, about three-fourths of the crop or 54,800 tons was crushed for oil. Seed exports amounted to 12,020 tons in 1950.

Turkey's 1950 flaxseed crop of 1,098,000 bushels was less by about one-fifth than in the 1949 season. This crop is grown principally for export and during the year 884,500 bushels were exported. Probable seed use for the 1951 crop was set at 197,000 bushels.

Minor oilseeds grown in Turkey are sesame seed (33,000 tons), poppy seed (11,000), peanuts (4,400), hempseed (4,700), and smaller quantities of rapeseed, soybeans, aniseed, and safflower seed.

Exports of oilseeds, oilcakes, and vegetable oils in 1950 amounted to roughly 107,000 tons, of which 69,000 tons were oilseeds, principally cottonseed, flaxseed, and sunflower seed; 37,800 tons included sesame, cotton, and olive oil cake and meal; and only 250 tons of various vegetable oils. While, in total, these exceeded 1949 exports in tonnage by at least 15,000 tons, the value was lower than in 1949 by one-third. This was due to a marked decrease in the export of vegetable oils in 1950 and to much lower export prices for the principal oilseeds--flaxseed and cottonseed.

Cottonseed exports were 55 percent above 1949, but at an average price of 16 kurus per kilo ($50.80 per short ton) compared with 26 kurus ($82.55) in 1949. Likewise, flaxseed exports were 78,000 bushels greater but at 44 kurus per kilo ($3.91 per bushel) against 58 kurus ($5.16) in 1949.

Wholesale prices for oilseeds and products averaged considerably lower during 1950 than the averages of several preceding years, according to the tabulations reported by the Istanbul market. However, by the close of the year prices for most items showed a substantial increase from the mid-summer low, in most instances rising to higher levels than the prices a year earlier.

The need for increasing and improving the facilities for oil extraction and refining has received priority attention on the part of the Turkish Government. Although the exportation of oilseeds and oilcakes occupy an important place in earning foreign exchange, the long-run development of a sound livestock industry depends to a considerable extent upon the full utilization of these high protein supplements for animal feed to improve the quality and increase the output of animal products.

DENMARK TO IMPORT ICELANDIC HERRING OIL IN 1951

A trade agreement whose terms include provision for Danish imports of herring oil and meal from Iceland was signed by the Governments of Iceland and Denmark at Reykjavik on April 21, 1951. In exchange, Iceland is to permit "traditional imports" of Danish goods, insofar as Iceland's foreign exchange position makes it possible.

According to the agreement, effective March 15, 1951, to March 14, 1952, the Icelandic Government will issue export licenses to Denmark for 7.5 percent of the herring oil produced in the summer of 1951 until September 15 and for 15 percent of that produced in the winter 1951-52 until the expiration date of the protocol.

Furthermore, export licenses will be issued to Denmark for 10 percent of the authorized volume of herring meal exports from the 1951 summer production up to September 15, and 20 percent of the authorized exports from the winter output.

Actual trade under the new agreement will depend largely on the outcome of Iceland's herring fisheries. If the summer herring season and, to a lesser extent, the fall and winter season are successful, a large quantity of herring meal and oil will be allocated to Denmark. Favorable exports may encourage Iceland to authorize a high level of imports from Denmark.

SOUTH AFRICAN EXPEDITION'S WHALE OIL OUTPUT HIGH

Production of whale and sperm oil by the South African Antarctic expedition during the 1950-51 season amounted to 30,220 short tons and represented the largest quantity produced by any single expedition during the season, according to Malcolm P. Hallam, American Consulate, Durban. The output consisted of 25,760 tons of whale oil and 4,460 tons of sperm oil. The previous season (1949-50), the South African expedition ranked third with a total production of 26,920 tons.

Production from South Africa's 2 shore-based stations in 1950-51 consisted of 6,640 tons of whale oil and 3,510 tons of sperm oil compared with 7,670 tons and 4,420 tons, respectively, in 1949-50.

All of the whale oil output of the shore-based stations continues to be consumed within the country. There is little or no local demand for sperm oil. The entire production of the Antarctic expedition, both whale and sperm oil, was purchased prior to the beginning of the season by the British Ministry of Food.

In October of last year, the Union Whaling Company (largest of the 2 South African concerns) and the British Ministry of Food agreed on a whale oil price of £ 100 per long ton ($250 per short ton). This is £ 20 per long ton ($50) more than was paid the previous season. The contracted price negotiated for sperm oil was £120 per long ton ($300).

The Government-controlled price of whale oil produced by the shore-based stations in the Union is currently £ 85 per long ton ($212.50), as against £ 75 ($187.50) paid last season.

The price of sperm oil has fluctuated greatly during the past year. The Union Whaling Company at one time (about July 1950) had some 14,560 short tons on hand which it was willing to sell for $125 per ton. Following the outbreak of hositilities in Korea, the price rose rapidly and the bulk of the Company's stocks was sold at about $175 per ton. All the sperm oil to be produced by the shore-stations through June of 1951 has been sold in advance. In addition to the United Kingdom, large buyers are Germany, the Netherlands, and Belgium. Very little has gone to the United States, reportedly because the price offered is below that which can be obtained in Europe.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

CANADIAN EGG AND POULTRY EXPORTS DECREASE IN 1951

Canada's egg and poultry exports during the first quarter of 1951 were much below those of the same quarter last year. There were practically no dried eggs and less than 1,000 pounds of frozen eggs exported during the first quarter of 1951 compared with 1.9 million pounds of dried and 112,000 pounds of frozen eggs exported during the same quarter in 1950.

In 1950, the dried eggs went to Britain and the frozen eggs to the United States. However, the total export of shell eggs in the first quarter of 1951 of 3.6 million dozen was somewhat above last year's 3 million dozen. Of the nearly 2.9 million dozen to the United States in the first quarter of 1951, three-quarters were exported in January. Canada is expected to have practically no eggs to sell to the United States before late fall, if then.

As with eggs, Canada's export of both live and dressed poultry during the first quarter of 1951 was greatly reduced from the same period of the previous year. Only 44,000 pounds of poultry meat were exported, mostly to the United States, during the first quarter of 1951, compared with 271,000 pounds of which 154,000 pounds went to the United States, for the same period in 1950. Only 22,000 live chickens, all to the United States, were exported in the first quarter of 1951, compared with 517,000 birds, also to the United States, for the same quarter in 1950. Turkey exports decreased from 15,830 birds for the first quarter in 1950 to none in the same period of 1951. There will be little, if any, exports of Canadian poultry during the remainder of 1951.

TOBACCO AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS

JAPAN'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION, EXPORTS AND IMPORTS HIGHER

Japan's 1950 tobacco production is estimated at 17 percent above 1949 according to W.I. Ladejinski, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Tokyo. Consumption of leaf during Japan's 1950 fiscal year (April 1950-March 1951) was 8 percent above the 1949 fiscal year. Exports and imports of leaf during 1950 were much greater than in 1949.

The country's 1950 leaf crop is now estimated at 218.9 million pounds compared with 187.0 million pounds in 1949. Native-type leaf constituted 108.2 million pounds or 49 percent of Japan's 1950 production. Virginia yellow or flue-cured made up 105.9 million pounds or 48 percent of the total and Burley accounted for the remaining 4.8 million pounds or 3 percent. During 1949 native leaf accounted for 110.5 million pounds or 59 percent of the total 187.0 million pounds produced. Virginia yellow or flue-cured made up 67.6 million or 36 percent and Burley 8.9 or 5 percent of the total leaf harvested in 1949.

During Japan's 1950 fiscal year (April-March) leaf consumption totaled 175.9 million pounds compared with 162.8 million in the 1949 fiscal year. Of the 1950 leaf consumption, native leaf constituted 108.6 million pounds or 62 percent, Virginia yellow or flue-cured 53.1 million pounds or 30 percent, Burley made up 12.9 million pounds or about 7 percent and imported leaf 1.2 million pounds or less than 1 percent. Leaf consumed in cigarettes during the 1950 fiscal year totaled 147.4 million pounds or 84 percent of the total. Pipe tobacco consumption totaled 28.5 million pounds or 15 percent, and cigar 15,231 pounds or less than 1 percent.

Exports of leaf during 1950 totaled 881,840 pounds compared with only 21,208 pounds in 1949. The bulk of Japan's 1950 exports was taken by Western Germany and the remaining small volume went to Switzerland, Belgium and the Netherlands. In addition to leaf Japan exported 160 million cigarettes to Korea during 1950.

Imports of leaf in 1950 totaled 2.8 million pounds compared with only 116,000 pounds in 1949. All the 1949 and 1950 leaf was native sun-cured imported from India. According to the reporting officer Japan expects to import 7.7 million pounds of leaf in 1951; this volume will be made up of at least 1.1 million pounds of United States leaf for which Japan has already contracted.

TURKEY'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS LOWER

Turkey's 1950 tobacco production is estimated at 7 percent below 1949 according to L.L. Scranton, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Ankara. Exports of unmanufactured tobacco during 1950 were 38 percent below 1949.

The country's 1950 tobacco harvest is estimated at 186.3 million pounds from 316,958 acres compared with 200.2 million pounds from 315,912 acres in 1949. Yield per acre was 588 pounds in 1950 compared with 634 pounds per acre in 1949. The Aegean Region, the largest tobacco-producing region in Turkey, produced 114.0 million pounds or 61 percent of the 1950 total, and the Black Sea Region, second largest leaf-producing area in Turkey, 27.9 million pounds or 12 percent. The Marmara Region, third largest producing area, produced 18.8 million pounds or 10 percent of the total, and the East Central Region, ranked fourth with 13.0 million pounds or 7 percent. The remaining 10 percent was produced in other regions of the country.

Turkey's 1950 unmanufactured tobacco exports totaled 108.5 million pounds compared with 176.2 million pounds in 1949. The United States, the most important export outlet during 1950 took 40.9 million pounds or 38 percent. Western Germany ranked second as a 1950 export outlet, taking 13.4 million pounds or 12 percent, the United Kingdom, third with 13.0 million or about 12 percent, Austria, fourth with 6.7 million or 6 percent, Egypt, fifth with 6.3 million or 6 percent. The remaining 23 percent was taken by numerous other countries including Czechoslovakia, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands and Italy.

HAITI'S 1950-51 COFFEE PRODUCTION LOWER

Haiti's 1950-51 coffee harvest now is estimated at 600,000 bags, about 10 percent less than the 1949-50 output of 665,000 bags, according to Dr. G. A. Hubert, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Port-au-Prince. Domestic consumption of coffee in Haiti is estimated at 220,000 bags; therefore, exportable production amounted to about 380,000 bags in 1950-51 compared with 445,000 bags in 1949-50.

The Haitian National Coffee Office reported that France might reopen the port of Le Havre to coffee shipments from Haiti. This report caused a stir of anticipation among Haitian dealers who thought it might indicate a change in France's postwar policy of importing coffee largely from its own territories to the exclusion of Haiti, which has traditionally shipped a large proportion of its exportable coffee production to France. The re-opening of Le Havre to Haitian coffee would not necessarily result in an increase in Haiti's coffee exports to Europe, because much of it would likely be re-exported from France to other European countries. In such a case, Le Havre would simple compete with Antwerp as the principal European market for Haitian coffee.

The high prices of coffee during the past year have stimulated the planting of coffee trees by peasant farmers in Haiti during the last few months. The extent of these plantings is not known as they are scattered on thousands of tiny peasant farms, each of which has a few coffee trees. There is still no organized effort on the part of the Government, or any other agency, to increase systematically the coffee tree population of this country, and such plantings as are occurring are helter-skelter, without any planning and the mortality may be expected to be considerable. Nevertheless, these sporadic plantings may result in an increase of Haiti's coffee production when the newly-planted trees reach maturity a few years from now.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

AUSTRALIA EXPECTS SMALLER WHEAT ACREAGE

Preparation of the land for seeding of small grains in Australia has been hampered by dryness over the greater part of the wheat belt. Seeding is now under way, following April rains in western Australia and in parts of South Australia and the eastern States. Latest reports stated, however, that further rains were needed in most areas before seeding could be completed.

The wheat acreage is expected to be less than the 11.9 million acres in 1950, which was the smallest area sown to wheat for grain since 1945-46. At that figure the area was 1.1 million acres, or about 9 percent less than average acreage for the 5 years ended 1938-39. Prospects for reduced acreage this year are attributed to other factors as well as to the unfavorable weather. Relatively high returns from wool appear to have caused growers to concentrate more on raising sheep, especially on large and medium farms. Shortage of deliveries of superphosphates may be considered an additional factor limiting wheat acreage. Labor shortages and the difficulty in securing machinery, machinery parts, and bags are also named as causes contributing to the decline.

The bag shortage is expected to hamper harvest operations especially if the wheat harvest is around normal. Some imports of bags are expected before harvesttime but a large proportion of these will have to go to South Australia and Queensland, since those States have no bulk handling facilities. Silo accommodations for wheat can not take care of the greater part of production in Victoria and New South Wales, and emergency storage bins must be erected to store part of the 1951 crop.

The chairman of the Australian Wheat Board states that organization will coordinate its resources with those of the Grain Elevator Boards of New South Wales and Victoria to increase facilities. He said indications pointed to the need to equip 70 to 80 railway sidings in New South Wales and 40 to 50 in Victoria with storage facilities.

Acreage in barley and oats is expected to show some increase over the 1950 area, despite the dry conditions over much of the area. Shortage of pasture growth incident to the dry weather, plus depleted fodder reserves and relatively high prices for oats are said to be incentives for some increase.

BRAZIL HARVESTS GOOD RICE CROP

Brazil's 1951 rice crop is forecast at 6,600 million pounds of rough rice compared with 7,000 million pounds in the preceding year, according to a preliminary estimate of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The acreage is estimated at 4,500,000 acres, a decline of about 6 percent from the year before (see Foreign Crops and Markets, March 19, 1951). Favorable weather in most areas again resulted in yields per acre approaching the high average of last season.

Rio Grande do Sul: The near-record 1951 (March-May) rice crop of the State of Rio Grande do Sul is estimated at 1,323 million pounds of rough rice, or slightly larger than in 1950. The increase resulted from very good weather during the growing season. Although moderately heavy rains during March and April affected the crop, the quality is still expected to be good.

RIO GRANDE DO SUL: Rice acreage and production, averages 1935-36/1944-45, annual 1945-46 to 1950-51

Year	Acreage	Yield per acre	Production	
			Rough	Milled
	1,000 acres	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Average				
1935-36/39-40	232	2,448	568.0	369
1940-41/44-45	432	1,802	778.5	506
1945-46	546	2,531	1,381.9	898
1946-47	528	2,366	1,249.1	812
1947-48	517	2,199	1,136.8	739
1948-49	535	2,258	1,208.2	785
1949-50	621	2,112	1,311.7	853
1950-51	594	2,227	1,322.8	860

Rio Grande do Sul Rice Institute.

Rice exports from the State of Rio Grande do Sul to foreign countries of 149 million pounds during the first quarter of 1951 were substantially larger than in corresponding period of 1950, when only 132,000 pounds were exported. Shipments to other Brazilian States of 55 million pounds were slightly less than in the corresponding period of 1950.

RIO GRANDE DO SUL: Rice shipments to Brazilian States, January-March 1951, with comparisons

State	Average 1944-48	1949	1950	January-March	
				1950	1951
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Federal District and Rio de Janeiro	182	192	174	29	28
Sao Paulo 1/	12	81	20	1	1
Bahia	15	16	16	4	5
Pernambuco	17	10	19	4	7
Railroad and truck	12	131	66	13	8
Others	32	193	52	6	6
Total shipments	270	623	347	57	55
Foreign exports	274	1	122	2/	94
Shipments and exports	544	624	469	57	149

1/ Does not include an average of 12 million pounds shipped to Sao Paulo and Parana by rail. 2/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Rio Grande do Sul Rice Institute.

March wholesale prices in Rio Grande do Sul were up from the last quarter of 1950. Average prices of Agulha, Blue Rose, and Japanese were quoted at $8.52, $8.32, and $7.47 per 100 pounds, compared with December prices of $7.17, $7.21, and $6.50 per 100 pounds, respectively. This increase reflects the new high support prices announced by the Rice Institute on March 21, 1951.

The new support prices represent a general increase of 15 percent over the minimum fixed prices of last year. The price support for the 1951-52 crop is expected to be on a par with prevailing world prices. At the official rate, the best price Rio Grande do Sul shippers now can offer is about $8.48 per 100 pounds f.o.b. Rio Grande for Japanese first grade. European buyers reportedly are offering around $6.60 per 100 pounds. Since the price of Brazilian rice currently is higher than world market prices, a new barter system or special exchange rate possibly may be approved in order to dispose of export availabilities.

THAILAND'S RICE EXPORTS INCREASE

Exports of rice from Thailand during the first quarter of 1951 totaled 1,056 million pounds compared with 767 million pounds in the corresponding period of a year earlier. The principal countries of destination were Malaya, Japan, and India.

THAILAND: Exports of milled rice by country of destination January-March 1951, with comparisons

Country of destination	Average 1936-40	1948	1949	1950	January-March 1950	January-March 1951 1/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Borneo...........	7	23	2/ 55	67	2/ 6	2/ 22
Ceylon...........	111	23	192	67	67	3/
China............	71	484	173	4/ 58	3/	3/
Hong Kong........	630	132	118	295	87	35
India............	77	365	692	194	3/	154
Indonesia........	26	173	299	210	31	56
Japan............	193	0	181	721	347	227
Malaya...........	1,118	342	575	888	124	243
Philippines......	52	132	83	14	3	68
Belgium..........	64	0	3	10	0	5/
Germany..........	62	0	0	0	0	5/
Netherlands......	82	14	52	163	48	5/
United Kingdom...	75	10	58	66	7	5/
Africa...........	86	0	0	6/ 112	3/	3/
Cuba.............	176	0	0	0	0	3/
Korea............	0	43	0	66	0	22
Portuguese Macao.........	3/	3/	3/	101	3/	3/
Other countries..	90	49	199	238	47	5/ 229
Total........	2,920	1,790	2,680	3,270	767	1,056

1/ Preliminary. 2/ North Borneo and Sarawak. 3/ If any, included in "other countries". 4/ Via Hong Kong. 5/ Exports to Europe totaled 106 million pounds. 6/ Near East and Africa.

Compiled from official statistics and Embassy reports.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on world markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1951	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound	
					Spot quotation	Export and intermediate taxes
Alexandria		Kantar				
Ashmouni, Good	5-31	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	113.00	65.50	1/ 2.96
Ashmouni, FGF	"	"	"	95.50	55.36	1/ 2.96
Karnak, Good	"	"	"	171.25	99.27	1/ 2.96
Karnak, FGF	"	"	"	153.25	88.84	1/ 2.96
Bombay		Candy				
Jarila, Fine	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	2/ 770.00	20.50	21.30
Broach Vijay, Fine	"	"	"	2/ 840.00	22.36	21.30
Karachi		Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine	5-30	82.28 lbs.	"	127.00	46.56	23.09
289F Sind, SG, Fine	"	"	"	131.00	48.03	23.09
289F Punjab, SG, Fine	"	"	"	146.00	53.53	23.09
Buenos Aires		Metric ton				
Type B	5-31	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	3/ 8000.00	72.58	6.77
Lima		Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2	5-29	101.4 lbs.	Sol	688.00	45.38	22.82
Tanguis, Type 5	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Pima, Type 1	"	"	"	850.00	56.06	39.11
Recife		Arroba				
Mata, Type 4	5-31	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	3/4/380.00	62.52	2.4% ad
Sertao, Type 5	"	"	"	(not quoted)		valorem
Sertao, Type 4	"	"	"	3/4/400.00	65.81	"
Sao Paulo						
Sao Paulo, Type 5	"	"	"	360.00	59.23	3.0% ad
Torreon		Sp. quintal				valorem
Middling, 15/16"	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	3/ 350.00	39.90	11.67
Houston-Galveston-New Orleans av.Mid. 15/16"	"	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	44.86	----

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ See explanation of tax reduction in "Late News" page 635.

2/ Ceiling price.

3/ Nominal.

4/ Prices omitted from last week's table: Recife, May 24, 1951, in cruzeiros per arroba with U.S. cents per pound in parentheses, Mata, Type 4, 390.00 nominal (64.16); Sertao, Type 4, 410.00 nominal (67.45); taxes 2.4% ad valorem.

1951-52 COTTON CROP OUTLOOK IN MEXICO

Although a substantially increased acreage has been planted to cotton in Mexico this season the outlook at present for a proportionate increase in production is not favorable, according to Kenneth Wernimont, Agricultural Attache, and Stanley Bakewell, Economic Assistant, American Embassy, Mexico City. With planting for the most part completed, the crops, especially those in eastern and northeastern sections of the country are suffering from a serious drought as well as dust storms. In many of the reservoirs the water supply for irrigation is at record low levels.

The high prices for cotton that prevailed during 1950-51, with the prospect of continued favorable prices during the coming season, have caused the Mexican farmers to increase their acreage planted to cotton at the expense, in some instances, of basic food crops. Preliminary estimates indicate that slightly more than 2 million acres will be planted to cotton during the 1951-52 season, about 10 percent more than the 1,829,000 acres harvested in 1950-51 according to latest reports. However, with prevailing weather conditions, it is impossible to forecast how much of the planted acreage in 1951-52 will mature and be harvested. Production on this acreage under normal yields, would amount to about 1,200,000 bales (500 pounds gross weight). This would be about 9 percent above the 1950-51 production, which has recently been revised to 1,120,000 bales. Adequate rainfall in the near future could improve the current gloomy outlook and make this increased production possible, but under present conditions the estimate of a 1,200,000-bale crop in 1951-52 must be considered too high.

The embargo on exports of cotton which was put into effect for the second time during the 1950-51 season on March 14, 1951, was lifted on May 8. High cotton prices with subsequent heavy exports during the early part of the 1950-51 season caused fear of a possible domestic shortage of raw cotton for local textile mills. On October 31, 1950, an embargo was placed on raw cotton exports which was partially lifted in December. On March 1, 1951, the export of cotton was again permitted without restriction. However, high prices and fairly heavy exports, again caused concern among the domestic textile mills over possible shortages of cotton, and the embargo was reinstated on March 14. While the most recent embargo was expected to continue until about July, exporters expressed little concern over the restriction since only small quantities of cotton were affected, and the ban was again lifted on May 8.

Consumption for 1950-51 is expected to be about 330,000 bales with mill stocks in April reported to be slightly more than 150,000 bales. The fact that the Government still had more than 12,000 bales of cotton on hand, from its central "pooling" operations in the early months of 1951, which were apparently not in great demand by the local mills, seemed to indicate that the domestic supply situation was not acute.

Exports of cotton during August 1950 through February 1951, as shown by United States trans-shipment records, amounted to 708,000 bales, far above the 332,000 bales exported in the corresponding period in 1949-50. About 228,000 bales, or 32 percent of total exports thus far in the current season, have been shipped to Japan, with Belgium and the United Kingdom receiving almost this same amount between them.

1950-51 COTTON CROP IN BRAZIL INCREASES OVER PREVIOUS SEASON

The outlook for the 1950-51 production of cotton in Brazil, though currently less favorable than earlier in the season, nevertheless indicates an increase of almost 12 percent over production in 1949-50. Present estimates are for a crop of 1,450,000 bales (500 pounds gross weight) in 1950-51, as compared with 1,300,000 bales in the previous season. The crop in northern Brazil, picking of which was completed in January, turned out slightly more than 480,000 bales, only 2 percent below the 494,000 bales produced in 1949-50. In southern Brazil, where cotton is picked from March through June, the crop has suffered recently from insects and late seasonal rains. Consequently, estimates of production have been revised downward to about 970,000 bales, which is still 20 percent above the 806,000-bale crop in 1949-50. Production in the State of Sao Paulo equals about 85 percent of the total southern output.

The Brazilian Government early in April 1951, announced an increase in the loan rate on cotton now being picked equal to approximately 13 U.S. cents a pound. In the South the new loan rate is 250 cruzeiros per arroba of 15 kilograms (41.1 cents a pound), while the loan rate on the 1951 northern crop (to be picked in July to December) was raised to 270 cruzeiros per arroba (44.4 cents a pound). These loan rates were raised in response to demands from members of the Trade who felt this action would strengthen prices which had been declining throughout March from about 74 cents a pound for Type 5 cotton at Sao Paulo to 63 cents early in April. No immediate strengthening of prices was noted, however, following the Government's action. Late in April prices began to increase somewhat and stood at 67 cents a pound for Type 5 on May 17. Whether the increase in loan rates was responsible for this advance of prices is difficult to determine, since various other factors were operating at the same time. The realization in Brazil that United States stocks at the end of the current season would be very low, reports that world consumption was far exceeding world production, and the recent unfavorable weather in South Brazil causing a decline in estimates of that crop, all tended to strengthen the market despite a large United States crop forecast for 1951-52. By May 23, however, prices had again declined slightly to 64.5 cents for Type 5.

Early in April the Government placed an embargo on further exports of cotton from Brazil until the requirements of the domestic market could be ascertained. The cotton textile mills of Sao Paulo have asked for almost 370,000 bales to be reserved to meet their needs. Consumption of cotton in all of Brazil in 1949-50 totaled slightly more than 900,000 bales. Exports during the first 9 months of 1950-51 (August 1950 through April 1951) totaled 353,000 bales, mainly to the United Kingdom, Japan, France, Germany and Spain. During the corresponding period of 1949-50 exports amounted to 365,000 bales. As soon as domestic requirements have been determined it is assumed that limited amounts of cotton will be authorized for export sales.

Along with the ban on exports the Government is attempting to conclude commercial agreements with countries desirous of obtaining Brazilian cotton, and of implementing commitments made under agreements already officially approved.--By J.E. Manger, based in part on a report by Oscar K. Moore, Agricultural Officer, American Consulate General, Sao Paulo.